(c) the reasons found common, if any, in these incidents;

(d) whether any step has been taken by Government to ameliorate difficulties of debt-trapped farmers in Vidarbha and other vulnerable regions in the country;

(e) whether any exercise to determine the effectiveness of the steps initiated has been conducted; and

(f) if so, the outcome thereof indicating the reasons for their failure in restraining the farmers in distress from taking the extreme step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The details of suicide during May, June and July, 2007 as reported by the State Government are as under:

	May	June	July
No. of cases	102	82	75

Indebtedness is the most important common reason for suicide by farmers.

Government has approved a Rehabilitation Package involving an amount of Rs. 16978.69 crore for 31 Districts in the four States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Kerala, reporting high number of suicides by farmers. The package includes six Districts of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra involving a total amount of Rs. 3873.26 crore. Besides, an Expert Group constituted by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Prof. R. Radhakrishna to look into the problems of agricultural indebtedness in its totality and suggest measures to provide relief to farmers across the country as submitted its report and the Government has initiated the process of consultation on its recommendation.

(e) and (f) Progress of implementation of rehabilitation package is being monitored and reviewed on a regular basis at District, State and Central level. Feed back received from the State Government regarding implementation of package indicates that it has made positive impact on mitigating the distress of farmers in the identified Districts.

Dairy development

1387. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent/to be spent on agriculture in the country during 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08 and what per cent it is of GDP;

(b) out of the above, the amount and per cent of GDP to be spent on dairy development in the country, year-wise;

(c) the amount proposed to be allocated to Rajasthan in 2007-08 for agriculture and dairy development and its comparison with previous two years;

(d) the amount allocated to the State for agricultute and dairy development during Tenth Plan, year-wise;

(e) the achievements thereof in Rajasthan;

(f) the contribution of dairy sector to the GDP of the country and Rajasthan; and

(g) the road map for dairy development during Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The expenditure/budget estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture and specifically on the (i) Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP), (ii) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production, (iii) Assistance to Cooperatives, and (iv) Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

	Agriculture	Dairy Development
2005-06	5453.37	91.57
2006-07(RE)	7040	74.96
2007-08 (BE)	8050	87.50 (BE)

According to data compiled by Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), agriculture and allied sector accounts for 18.5 per cent in India's total GDP in 2006-07 (revised estimates) at constant 1999-2000 prices.

(c) and (d) Expenditure on agriculture and allied sectors in Rajasthan in the Tenth Plan Period (including dairy development) is as follows:

(Rs. in crore)

2002-03	73.88
2003-04	89.87
2004-05	177.59
2005-06	354.28
2006-07	232.22 (anticipated)

(e) The achievements under the dairy development schemes reported in Rajasthan are as follows:

(i) Intensive Dairy Development Programme (IDDP): 1578 DCS have been organized with 73,910 farmer members that are procuring and marketing about 1,46,920 LPD and 88,690 LPD of milk.

(ii) Strengthening Infrastructure for Quality and Clean Milk Production: 10 projects under this scheme have been sanctioned in Rajasthan. 40543 members have been trained and Bulk Milk Cooling facility having 147500 LPD capacity have been set up in the project area.

(iii) Dairy/Poultry Venture Capital Fund: Since inception of the scheme a total of 345 dairy units and 5 poultry units with a total amount of Rs. 4.81 crores have been sanctioned for Rajasthan till 31st July, 2007.

(f) As in (a) to (d) above.

(g) The above mentioned schemes are expected to be continued in the Eleventh Five Year Plan. The Eleventh Plan is yet to be finalized by the Planning Commission.

Faulty agricultural policy

†1388. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been no increase in agricultural production and it has rather decreased due to faulty agricultural policy in the last four years in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the quantum of agricultural export as compared to total export has been decreasing in these last four years;

(c) whether it is a fact that States where priority has been given to commercial crops, the burden of debt has increased on farmers and they have committed suicides there; and

(d) whether it is a fact that the process of modernization has been nil in agricultural technology, if so, the efforts being made by Government in this direction and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) A Statment showing the agriculture production and exports during the last 4 years is enclosed (*See* below). The production of foodgrains, sugarcane and cotton shows an increasing trend since 2005-06. The share of agricultural export to total export is decreasing during last four years.

(c) The National Sample Survey Organization in its 59th Round (January to December, 2003) conducted a survey relating to farmer household. As per its findings, out of 89.35 million farmer households, 43.42 million (48.6%) were reported to be indebted. The prevalence of indebtedness among farmer households was highest in Andhra Pradesh (82%) followed by Tamil Nadu (74.5%), Punjab (65.4%), Kerala (64.4%), Karnataka (61.6%) and Maharashtra (54.8%). So far as suicide by farmers is concerned, broadly the reasons for suicide are crop failure, indebtedness and drought, social and economic insecurity.

(d) It is not true that the process of modernization has been nil in agricultural technology. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is focusing on scaling up the production of breeder, foundation and certified seeds. High yielding varieties and hybrids in crops with improved quality and disease resistance are continuously developed. Appropriate strategies are developed for different agro-climate zones to overcome the yield gaps. Water conservation and ground water management for rainfed areas is given much more focused attention. Reforms are undertaken in agricultural education for improving quality and standards because of emerging challenges of making Indian agriculture not only sustainable but also

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.